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Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals



“Our inpatient and outpatient services help provide the care needed by the city of Hamilton and the central west Ontario region - a referral area of some 1.8 million people.”

CHEDOKE-McMASTER HOSPITALS

Chedoke-McMaster is one hospital corporation operating on two sites: Chedoke Hospital, located near the brow of the Niagara Escarpment, and McMaster University Medical Centre, which is part of the McMaster University campus in the west end of Hamilton.

As a teaching hospital affiliated with Mohawk College and McMaster University, Chedoke-McMaster is a major centre of patient care, research and education.

Chedoke Hospital got its start as a tuberculosis sanatorium in 1906, with the fresh air above the city considered crucial for the TB treatment of the day. At one point, “The San,” as it was known, was the largest facility of its kind in the British Commonwealth.

McMaster University Medical Centre opened in 1972 and was designed as “the hospital of the future.” Its patient wards were strategically placed near teaching and research areas, which were in turn situated next to physicians’ offices. The building it occupies is owned by McMaster University’s Faculty of Health Sciences and is also known as the Health Sciences Centre.

In 1979 the two hospitals amalgamated to strengthen areas of special expertise and avoid duplication of services. The majority of hospital departments and services are now amalgamated under one director for both sites.

Inpatients and Outpatients

When we think of hospitals, we think of beds - yet Chedoke-McMaster’s outpatient services play a very big role in our day-to-day operations. We have over 100 clinics where people can seek assessment and treatment in a wide variety of specialty services.

There’s the Short Stay Unit - a place where people can have surgeries and procedures done on a day basis, returning home to their families by evening. There are two day hospitals - one for rehabilitation, one for geriatric assessment. Each helps prevent “institutionalizing” patients who don’t need 24-hour care, yet need specialized services we can provide.

And there are approximately 800 inpatient beds for acute care, geriatric assessment, rehabilitation and chronic care.

Together, our inpatient and outpatient services help provide the care needed by the city of Hamilton and the central west Ontario region - a referral area of some 1.8 million people. The central west region is bordered by Mount Forest, Oakville, Fort Erie and Brantford.



Our Specialties

The Chedoke site is renowned for its extensive special rehabilitation programs. With our goal of helping people to become as independent as possible, we offer rehab programs in:

- stroke
- amputee (including a prosthetics and orthotics department famous for developing the Terry Fox Running Leg)
- chronic pain
- rheumatic diseases
- spinal cord injury
- hand program
- respiratory program
- acquired brain injury - This program was expanded in 1987 to make Chedoke-McMaster the provincial referral centre. It includes inpatient and outpatient services and a special residential centre for behavioral rehabilitation.

Chedoke's programs also include orthopedic reconstruction, extensive geriatric services providing total medical and psychiatric care, and a large chronic care facility for adults needing continued hospital care.

Chedoke-McMaster has one set of services that is a hospital within a hospital. This is the Children's Hospital at Chedoke-McMaster, with programs ranging from cancer treatment to an intensive care unit for very premature or ill newborns. CMH is also the central west Ontario referral centre for pediatric trauma.

Although most of the Children's Hospital programs and the inpatient wards are located at the McMaster site, Chedoke is the home of the Child and Family Centre. . . an innovative collection of outpatient services dealing with both physical and psychological childhood growth and development. Included in the centre's services are preschools for children with disorders such as autism, spina bifida, cerebral palsy and delays and impairments in development.

Other specialties at the McMaster site are high-risk obstetrical care, which includes programs in human genetics and fertility, as well as gastrointestinal disease and bone marrow transplants. Canada's first adult bone marrow transplant using marrow from an unrelated donor was performed successfully at Chedoke-McMaster in 1988.





Research and Education

Because Chedoke-McMaster is a teaching hospital, it has a strong commitment to learning, both through extensive research and as a centre for students in a variety of health disciplines.

Teamwork in Action

Greater Hamilton has a world-class standing in health care. In a unique, cooperative system with common goals, the city's hospitals, university, community college, health professionals and district health council provide rationalized and regionalized services and joint educational and research programs. The hospitals each have their own specialties and services which are not duplicated throughout the city. This health care network has become a model for other cities in Ontario.

Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals Foundation

Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals has its own hospital Foundation - a registered charity established to support research, patient amenities, capital equipment and nursing and health professional education.

The Foundation accepts donations, bequests, pledges, gifts of insurance and property as well as memorial gifts for these purposes. All gifts are acknowledged with a tax receipt and donors' names are published in an annual report.

If you are interested in finding out how to donate to Chedoke-McMaster, or would like to learn more about the Foundation, please call the Foundation and Development office at 521-2100, ext. 6742.

The hospital gratefully acknowledges community support in the form of volunteers who work in all areas of the hospital.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 2000, Station 'A'
1200 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3Z5
Phone: (416) 521-2100



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